

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 ISO-00 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01

OMB-01 /130 W

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R 071430Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 820

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 10094

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OAU

SUBJ: JOINT OAU-ECA CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION

1. MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES JOINTLY SPONSORED BY OAU AND ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (ECA) WAS HELD IN ADDIS ABABA FROM SEPTEMBER 1-4. MEETING WAS PRECEDED BY MEETING OF EXPERTS FROM AUGUST 26-SEPTEMBER 1. PURPOSE OF MEETINGS WAS TO ESTABLISH "FIRM AND CONCRETE" AFRICAN PROPOSALS ON HOW THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CAN COOPERATE TO BRING ABOUT CHANGES IN EXISTING INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER FOR SEPTEMBER 13-21 NON-ALIGNED MINISTERIAL IN MEXICO CITY.

2. WE ESTIMATE THAT ONLY EIGHT MINISTERS WERE PRESENT AT THE MINISTERIAL WITH 30 OTHER OAU NATIONS REPRESENTED BY LOWER LEVEL DELEGATIONS. EXPERTS' REPORT WAS DELAYED, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS WERE DELAYED IN TURN, AND MOST MINISTERS REPORTEDLY HAD LEFT BEFORE EXPERTS' REPORT ADOPTED. IN SUM, IT APPEARS THAT MINISTERIAL DEGENERATED INTO MEETING IN WHICH EXPERTS

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READOPTED THEIR OWN REPORT.

3. DESPITE CALLS BY OAU ASSISTANT SECRETARY OSANYA
NYYNEQUE AND ECA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY ADEBAYO ADEDEJI
AT OPENING SESSION FOR AN END TO RHETORIC AND THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF CONCRETE PLANS AND PROPOSALS, CONFERENCE APPEARS TO
HAVE DONE LITTLE BUT REAFFIRM PRINCIPLES ESTABLISHED AT
COLOMBO AND PREVIOUS NON-ALIGNED MEETINGS. WE DOUBT THAT
AFRICAN BLOC WILL HAVE ANY STRIKING NEW PROPOSALS FOR
NEXICO CITY MEETING.

4. DETAILED REPORT ON CONFERENCE WILL FOLLOW.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ADDIS10094
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760338-0270
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760987/aaaacwue.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT OAU-ECA CONFERENCE ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION
TAGS: OCON, PORG, OAU, ECA, ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006